

UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE  
ESCUELA DE MEDICINA

INSTITUTO DE QUIMICA  
FISIOLOGICA Y PATOLOGICA

Borgoño 1470 - Santiago

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Dear Josh:

I was quite surprised when I received your letter from Australia. I took for granted that you would be in Madison after your trip to Europe. I am glad you finally decided to go abroad and on top of it to visit such a number of places. On this connection I would like to invite you to return from Australia via Chile.

I have talked with our Head of Department about this possibility and he expressed that he would be most happy to have you here and that you can count with the University of Chile for your expenses in Chile. How do you like the idea? I am sure Esther would love to practice her Spanish.

With regard to the ms, I hope everything turns out allright. Your decision was correct assuming that Australian Post Office is better than the Chilean.

Sol wrote me about his method to prepare "nuclei" from negaterium. He also tried to obtain them from E. coli without success. I have just obtained a DNA with 0.3 % of hydrolyzed material using the fact that most of the RNA goes out under treatment with benzene. My feeling is that most of the trouble resides in the RNA because of the active RNAase of coli. Unfortunately even this prep is not good enough because the bacteria pick up about 0.2 % of the radioactivity. Increasing the number of cells increases the rate of hydrolysis.

I am really anxious to get the cultures I asked you last time. Do you think they will send them by air mail?

I read an article of Rickenberg in BBActa in which he finds that E. coli protoplasts still accumulate radioactive lactose. Thus the permease is not located in the "cell-wall" or lysozyme does not eliminate the cell-wall completely. The importance of the article lies in the fact that I found (in one experiment) the protoplasts to have a masking factor close to one. My protoplasts were penicillin-made which could explain the difference, aside of the minimal number of experiments.

The USPH just informed me that I was given a small grant of \$ 2200 for this year. I think this is very good because I was afraid that they would be reluctant to give a grant abroad.

Best regards to Esther and you.

Yours,

Boris